

SAUGEEN VALLEY CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Conservation through Cooperation

MINUTES

MEETING: Board of Directors
DATE: Thursday, February 19, 2015
TIME: 1:00pm
LOCATION: Administration Office, Formosa

CHAIR: Luke Charbonneau

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Luke Charbonneau, Maureen Couture, Kevin Eccles, Brian Gamble, Wilf Gamble, Dan Gieruszak, Stewart Halliday, Dan Kerr, Steve McCabe, Sue Paterson, Mike Smith.

DIRECTORS ABSENT, WITH REGRET: Robert Buckle, John Eccles, Glen Irwin, Andrew White

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Brohman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Janice Hagan, Accounts Payable/Administration Assistant
Jim Penner, Manager, Forestry
Shannon Wood, Manager, Communications
Rene Kleinecke, GIS
Nancy Griffin, Conservation Education Coordinator
Members of the Press
Volunteers and Sponsors

Chair Luke Charbonneau called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm. Mr. Charbonneau welcomed the Guests, Volunteers, Sponsors, and Staff members present.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION #G15-16

Moved by Dan Kerr
Seconded by Dan Gieruszak
THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

No persons declared a conflict of pecuniary interest relative to any item on the agenda.

3. MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – January 16, 2015

MOTION #G15-17

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Maureen Couture

THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, held on January 16, 2015, be adopted as amended, to correct the placement in the agenda of Kevin Eccles arrival.

Carried

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Board Meeting Schedule – Report 7b

Stewart Halliday expressed concern about the time of the meeting on September 24th and requested that it begin at 2:00pm rather than 1:00pm.

MOTION #G15-18

Moved by Dan Kerr

Seconded by Steve McCabe

THAT the 2015 meeting schedule be amended so that the September 24th meeting begins at 2:00pm.

Carried

5. PRESENTATION: VOLUNTEER, SPONSOR, & STAFF APPRECIATION

The following Staff Appreciation Awards were presented by Luke Charbonneau to long serving employees of SVCA.

Five Year Service Awards (Plaque):	Rene Kleinecke, GIS Technician Elly Ward, Communications, DWSP [absent]
Twenty-five Year Service Awards (Watch):	Nancy Griffin, Conservation Education Coordinator Shannon Wood, Manager, Communications
Thirty Year Service Award (Print)	Gary Senior, Sr Manager, Flood Warning & Land Management [absent]

The following major sponsors were recognized by Ed Moric and Luke Charbonneau, and representatives in attendance were presented with a framed certificate for their financial contribution (more than \$1000) to SVCF: Bruce Power, Grant's Independent, Greer Family, Love's Sweetness Maple Syrup, Ontario Power Generation, Ross Young Bus Lines, Scotia Bank, John Sutherland & Sons Ins., and The Post.

The following major volunteers were recognized and those in attendance were presented with a framed certificate of appreciation: Bruce County Campers, Catherine Dickison, Lin Fleming, Sam Fraser, Jo-Anne Harbinson, Johanna Hardy & family, Faye Moore, Bryce Johnson, John & Jeanne Kuntz, Kincardine Ski Club, Robert Lacelle, Donna Lacey, MaryAnn Kroetsch, Helen Grubb, Marlene Montag, Jack MacLeod, The Marin Family, Mike & Brittney Moore, Ed & Betty Moric, Jim Penner, Jim & Barbara Potts, Gary Senior, The Shelley Family, The Ward Family, Sharon Yorke, Bob & Monika Zettel.

6. PRESENTATION: SAUGEEN VALLEY CHILDREN’S SAFETY VILLAGE – AL LEACH

Mr. Al Leach showed a slide presentation and described the mission of the Saugeen Valley Children’s Safety Village. The organization currently has a signed agreement in place to use 5 acres of land at the Sulphur Spring CA and is considering a proposal to retrofit the Administration/Resource Centre building. He showed a potential layout schematic of how the temporary village could be constructed on the site. Mr. Leach believes that a mutual agreement could benefit both the Safety Village and SVCA. Luke Charbonneau encouraged Mr. Leach to work with SVCA staff to bring a detailed proposal to the Property Committee.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence at this time.

8. REPORTS

Finance Report

MOTION #G15-19

Moved by Dan Kerr

Seconded by Wilf Gamble

THAT the Financial Report to December 31, 2014 be accepted as distributed and further;

THAT the Accounts Payable, totaling \$338,452.37 be approved as distributed.

Carried

Program Reports

MOTION #G15-20

Moved by Dan Kerr

Seconded by Wilf Gamble

THAT the Program Report be adopted as presented.

Carried

Emerald Ash Borer Report

Jim Penner discussed his report on the Emerald Ash Borer in the SVCA region. He described the strategies of the Forest Management program in reducing the challenges of the EAB. Mr. Penner said that the elimination of safety risks on SVCA trails is a very high priority. Mr. Penner describe the situation at various parks and said that priorities had to be set differently at each location, based on safety. He advised the Board that the preliminary estimated cost of removal of Ash trees could be as high as \$600,000 over a five year period, however some of this cost could be offset through timber revenues. Mr. Charbonneau said that the Forest Management program needs to get a firm handle on the financial costs so these costs could be worked into future budgets. Mr. Penner was directed to provide a more detailed analysis to the Forestry Committee.

Saugeen Bluffs Campground Report

Since Wayne Brohman had previously been instructed by the Parks Committee to seek further direction from the Board of Directors regarding the revenue losses at the SVCA Campgrounds, specifically the Saugeen Bluffs location, he re-presented the issues. He reviewed the history of the RFP and the revenue losses and described the steps he had taken in promoting the RFP. He told the Board that the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority is also pursuing an RFP and he will monitor their results. Mr. Charbonneau said that operating the campgrounds at a deficit is intolerable and the general levy should not be used. The Board directed Wayne Brohman to re-issue the RFP and to look for other ways to market the plan.

MOTION #G15-21

Moved by Maureen Couture

Seconded by Dan Kerr

THAT the Board directs the General Manager to re-issue the RFP for the Saugeen Bluffs Campground, and further THAT the General Manger explore other marketing options, further THAT he report to the Board at the next meeting.

Carried

A coffee break was called at 2:30pm. Dan Kerr left the meeting.
Chair Luke Charbonneau called the meeting back to order at 2:47pm.

Martyn Land Donation

Wayne Brohman announced that the donation of property by the Martyn family has been completed. There will be a press release submitted, and a plaque is to be erected on the property.

Board per Diems

Wayne Brohman presented a report on Board per Diems. He discussed Section 37 of the Conservation Authorities Act, and as well gave comparisons of practices amongst other Conservation Authorities. Luke Charbonneau said that the report is for information only, and that any changes in per diems for SVCA should take place in conjunction with the annual budget review.

Lockerby Dam Removal

Wayne Brohman provided an update on the removal of the Lockerby Dam. He informed the Board that the dam must be removed this year in order to qualify for the grant from Fisheries and Oceans Canada. A public meeting had been held in Paisley and the response from the residents present was positive. The next steps are to continue to seek funding and to get engineered drawings done for tendering purposes. Kevin Eccles asked if an Environmental Assessment would need to be performed. Mr. Brohman will advise if this necessary.

9. NEW BUSINESS

SVCA DIRECTOR CONTACT WITH SVCA STAFF

Mr. Brohman discussed the protocol of Director contact with SVCA staff, and it was agreed that communication should be streamed through the General Manager and not directly with the staff members. This would keep the General Manager informed of any possible issues that may arise, and it will allow for prompt responses.

2011-2016 Strategic Plan

A copy of the 2011-2016 Strategic Plan was distributed to each of the Directors present. Luke Charbonneau directed the members to review the document and to focus on Goal #2. The Board discussed ways that the Planning & Regulations staff could improve customer service. Mr. Brohman presented the Board with a chart showing areas of concern and how the Staff have been working towards a solution. Luke Charbonneau would like to have the Strategic Plan, goal #2 put back on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

MOTION #G15-22

Moved by Steve McCabe

Seconded by Mike Smith

THAT the Board of Directors move to Closed Session, In Camera, to discuss personnel matters; and further THAT Janice Hagan remain in the meeting.

Carried

MOTION #G15-23

Moved by Sue Paterson

Seconded by Keven Eccles

THAT the Board of Directors adjourn from Closed Session, In Camera, and rise and report, and further; THAT the Board of Directors re-convene the regular meeting.

Carried

Only those items identified on the agenda were discussed in Closed Session. There were no actions to report from the Closed Session, In Camera.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:25pm on motion of Maureen Couture.

Luke Charbonneau
Chair

Janice Hagan
Recording Secretary